

**Design and Historic Review Commission Meeting Minutes**  
**January 27, 2021**

A meeting of the City of Yuma Design and Historic Review Commission was held on Wednesday, January 27, 2021, at City Hall Council Chambers, One City Plaza, Yuma, Arizona.

**DESIGN AND HISTORIC REVIEW COMMISSION MEMBERS** present included Chairman Tom Rushin, Commissioners Chris Hamel and James Sheldahl (Arrived at 4:01pm). Commissioner Juan Leal-Rubio and Vice-Chairman Bill Moody participated via phone call. Commissioners Amanda Coltman and Sandra Anthony were absent.

**STAFF MEMBERS** present included Alyssa Linville Assistant Director DCD; Robert Blevins, Principal Planner; Chad Brown, Associate Planner; Amelia Griffin, Associate Planner; Erika Peterson, Assistant Planner; Martin Garcia, Neighborhood Services Specialist; Jessenia Juarez, Administrative Assistant; and Alejandro Marquez, Administrative Assistant.

**Chairman Rushin** called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and noted there was a quorum present.

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**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**Commissioner Moody** nominated Thomas Rushin as Chairman, second by **Commissioner Hamel**. Motion carried unanimously (5-0) with Thomas Rushin as Chairman.

**Commissioner Hamel** nominated Juan Leal-Rubio as Vice-Chairman, second by **Commissioner Sheldahl**.

Motion carried unanimously (5-0) with Juan Leal-Rubio as Vice-Chairman.

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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

December 9, 2020

Motion by Hamel, second by Leal-Rubio to APPROVE the minutes of December 9, 2020. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

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**ITEMS REQUIRING COMMISSION DISCUSSION AND ACTION.**

**DHRC-33265-2020:** *This is a request by MAHA LLC, for historic review of a new single-family home on a vacant lot, located at 57 W. 2nd Street, in the Brinley Avenue Historic District.*

**Bob Blevins, Principal Planner** summarized the staff report, recommending **APPROVAL**.

**QUESTIONS FOR STAFF**

None

**APPLICANT / APPLICANT'S REPRESENTATIVE**

**Yamen Al-Alou, Maha LLC, 299 W. 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Yuma, AZ** said he wanted to construct a new home on the corner of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and Madison Avenue, and would like it to be the same elevation and design to match the surrounding homes.

**Leal-Rubio** asked what the size of the lot and the percentage of the lot being used was known.

**Leal-Rubio** asked if there was a setback between the proposed home and building to the east. **Blevins** said the old town district zoning does have a 100% lot coverage and added it could also have a 0 foot setback. **Blevins** stated Building Safety and the Fire Department required a 5 foot setback. **Blevins** continued by saying the east sidewall does meet the 3 foot setback requirement and if there were other

windows or openings, it would change the setback requirement. **Blevins** asked the applicant if he had to make any changes. **Al-Alou** said he had to add 1 foot to the 3 feet setback on the east sidewalk for fire separation. **Leal-Rubio** said the fire separation was a concern, but was glad to hear the requirements were met.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

## **MOTION**

**Motion by Hamel, second by Sheldahl, to APPROVE Case Number DHRC-33265-2020 subject to the Conditions of Approval in Attachment A. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).**

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## **COMMISSION DISCUSSION**

### **Memo on Additional Murals on 32<sup>nd</sup> Street**

**Lindsay Benacka** with The Yuma Art Center gave a presentation to the Commission about adding an addition to the 32<sup>nd</sup> street mural.

**Hamel** stated the he drives past the mural everyday on his way to and from work, and that the mural brightens up at that area. **Hamel** then added that he is very proud of the community for not putting graffiti on the mural. **Hamel** then asked for clarification on the placement of the new mural. **Benacka** replied the new mural will be on the west side of the existing mural. **Hamel** then commended **Benacka** for the great job on the murals and paintings that are going up around the City.

**Leal-Rubio** asked about the location of the mural. **Benacka** replied that the mural was across the street from Kofa High School's basketball courts.

### **Memo on Funding for Rehabilitation of Structures**

**Martin Garcia** from Neighborhood Services updated the Commission on Funding for the Rehabilitation of Structures.

**Sheldahl** asked what the income eligibility cut-off amount was for a family of four. **Garcia** replied the maximum was \$43,900. **Sheldahl** then commended Neighborhood Services for its effort on revitalizing the Mesa Heights neighborhood. **Commissioner Rushin** agreed. **Leal-Rubio** thanked **Garcia** for his efforts in all that he does for the community with these types of programs. **Blevins** then thanked Neighborhood Services for the presentation.

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## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **Staff**

**Blevins** commented that he had received a call from the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) asking for an update on the Blaisdell Slow Sand Filter. **Blevins** confirmed that the Filter was still there. **Blevins** then gave a brief discussion on the history of the site and then noted that January was the anniversary of the Filter becoming a National Historic Site.

**Blevins** informed the Commission that a new Commissioner had been appointed however was not present.



**National Heritage Area**

None

**Commission**

None

**Public**

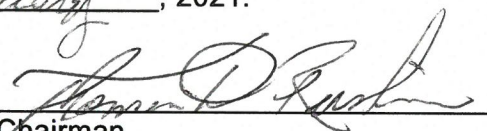
None

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**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Minutes approved this 10 day of February, 2021.

  
Chairman